Withdrawal from road projects by BRO

2517. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Border Roads Organisation has decided to withdraw from the road projects within the country;

(b) if so, how many projects under the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme are going to be affected due to the above;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to rope in new players into the road projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) It has been decided to hand over 37 roads after completion to the NHAI/State PWDs in a phased manner in order to enable BRO to concentrate on completion of strategic roads in Borders areas.

(b) No, Sir. No project under the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme is going to be affected.

(c) to (e) These roads are to be handed over to Government agencies like NHAI/State PWDs in a phased manner. They will decide at appropriate time about engaging new players or otherwise.

Delay on supply of war related equipments by Russia

† 2518. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Russia has been facing some difficulties to supply war related equipments and arms to India in the recent past;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have made any efforts to remove these hurdles;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether it would be possible to restore uninterrupted supply of war related equipments from Russia as was being done earlier?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (e) Government has entered into several agreements for procurement of various types of defence equipment from various indigenous as well as foreign sources including Russia according to requirements of the Armed Forces. Delay in delivery of such equipment sometimes takes place due to various unforeseen problems irrespective of the source of acquisition.

Hurdles, if any, met during execution of contract are resolved bilaterally at an appropriate level.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.